(b) if so, the steps taken to undo this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) As a policy Re. 1, Rs. 2 and Rs. 5 have been coinised and their printing stopped from September, 1994, January, 1995 and November, 1995 respectively. The Reserve Bank of India has launched a special drive to replace the soiled notes of Re. 1, Rs.2 and Rs. 5 by coins through its own offices as also the public sector bank and some private sector bank branches.

(b) The following steps have been taken to improve supply of coins in the country:

(i) The India Government Mints are being modernised to augment the indigenous production of coins.

(ii) Coins have been imported to reduce the shortage.

Regularisation of Monthly income Account

241. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Minister of Communications had recommended a number of cases for regularisations of MIS account where deposits in multiples of Rs. 5000/- have been accepted;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the recommendations were turned down; and

(c) whether Government can deny payment of interest and bonus on portions of such deposits, even the money is in Government exchequer for 6 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government have decided to regularise the accounts having deposits in multiple of Rs. 5,000.

Foreign stake in Nationalised Banks

242. SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: